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at their face value the laws and regulations of the Confederacy. A careful study of internal conditions in the South will not justify such an acceptance. He seems to accept the tradition about a closed aristocracy in the South (p. 7). Some objection might reasonably be made to the comparison between Stonewall Jackson and John Brown, and the "craziness" of Jackson is entirely too much insisted upon. Dr. Hosmer served in the war as a soldier, and to him the Confederates were rebels and the war a rebellion, not a civil war, and on technical matters this is still his view. This conviction results in no biased statement of facts, but it does result sometimes in a one-sided attitude towards certain events. For instance, throughout the work he insists upon the fact that the Confederates sequestered the property of northern enemies, and treats the policy of confiscation rather mildly as one of retaliation. Also the demand of the Confederacy that all its people take one side or the other is called a persecution of the Unionists, while nothing is said of similar treatment of Confederate sympathizers in the North. This view leads the author, when speaking of Robert E. Lee, to say that he "forfeited his allegiance," "sacrificed his loyalty." However, these opinions as to the fundamental nature of the contest do not effect treatment of the period in any other way.

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Jameson, J. Franklin (General Editor). *Original Narratives of Early American History*. Vol. I, Olson, Julius E., and Bourne, Edward Gaylord (Editors). The Northmen, Columbus, and Cabot, 985-1503, Pp. xv, 443. Vol. II, Hodge, Frederick W., and Lewis, Theodore E. (Editors). Spanish Explorers in the Southern United States, 1528-1543. Pp. xv, 411. Vol. III, Burrage, Henry S. (Editor). Early English and French Voyages, 1534-1608. Pp. xxii, 451. Price, \$3.00 per volume. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1906-07.

These volumes are the first of a series planned and reproduced under the auspices of the American Historical Association. The purpose of the series, as stated by Dr. Jameson in his general preface, is to render accessible to individual readers, libraries, schools and colleges a comprehensive and well-rounded collection of those classical narratives on which the early history of the United States is founded. The justification for such an undertaking is obvious. The scarcity of the early imprints of these pioneer narrations, or the expensive character of many of the limited editions of reprints, has rendered it impossible for the ordinary library to possess an adequate collection of the great narrative sources of American history. This series aims "to restore to their rightful position" these authorities, by issuing their narratives in a convenient and inexpensive form. The plan contemplates the publication of whole works or distinct parts of works, and hence differs from the volumes of extracts from the sources already available, which have been compiled chiefly for class use.

The three volumes already published reveal the success with which the

plans of the general editor are being carried out. The initial volume comprises in its first seventy-five pages the Vinland narrations as given in the *Saga of Eric the Red* and in the *Flat Island Book*, edited by Professor Olson. This is followed by the accounts of the four voyages of Columbus, concluding with a few documents relating to the Cabot voyages, all edited by Professor Bourne.

The second volume includes the contemporary accounts of the three most important Spanish explorations in the region now comprised in the southern part of the United States. These are Cabeza de Vaca's narrative of his remarkable wanderings, the account of the expedition of Hernando de Soto by the Gentleman of Elvas, and Pedro de Castañeda's narrative of the expedition of Coronado. Apart from the requirements of the series there was not the same necessity for the issuing of this particular volume as for the other two, as two of these narratives already have been published in handy and inexpensive form under the competent editorship of Messrs. Bourne and Winship respectively. In fact in the case of the expedition of De Soto, owing probably to the limited size of the volume, the present work is not as comprehensive, as it does not include either the narrative of De Biedma or Ranjel.

The third volume contains the three relations of Jacques Cartier and fourteen narratives of English seamen, chiefly during the reign of Queen Elizabeth. This volume is especially timely, in view of the present interest in the commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of the settlement at Jamestown, as it includes the accounts of the most important voyages which prepared the way for the first permanent English colony. These narratives also disclose the ruling motives which actuated Englishmen in their efforts to colonize the new world.

The texts selected are the best, and the several special editors secured are men especially qualified for their particular work. Their task has been to supply introductions presenting briefly the author's career and opportunities, the place and value of his work in the literature of its class with comments upon previous editions, and a short list of authorities; in addition, to furnish annotations of a scholarly but simple character, sufficient to explain or to correct statements in the text.

If the remaining volumes are edited with a similar degree of skill and intelligence as these under review, the series will prove to be a most admirable one and will be recognized as a standard collection of source publications. We believe that the hope of the general editor that these volumes "will be widely useful in making more real and more vivid the apprehension of early American history" will be realized.

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